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NOTE.—Members of the Organization African Malagasy Coffee Producers (OAMCAF) are underlined. Coffee export stamps issued to members of OAMCAF will bear the code No. 155.

(T.D. 81-59)

Notice Concerning the Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources Act

Notice of restrictions under the Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources Act against certain uses of vessels not documented as vessels of the United States in deep seabed mining

The Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources Act (Public Law 96-283, 94 Stat. 553, the act) became law on June 23, 1980. The primary purpose of the act is to establish an interim procedure for the orderly development of hard mineral resources in the deep seabed, pending adoption of an international regime. However, the act also reserves to vessels documented under the laws of the United States the commercial recovery or processing at sea of deep seabed hard mineral resources and a part of the transportation of those resources. This notice is published to advise Customs officers of these provisions of the act.

The act establishes a license or permit system. Only with a license or permit issued under the act (or with a license issued by a reciprocating state or pursuant to an international agreement in force with respect to the United States) may a U.S. citizen engage in exploration for, or commercial recovery of, deep seabed hard mineral resources. "Deep seabed" is defined as the seabed and subsoil thereof to a depth of 10 meters lying seaward of and outside (1) the continental shelf of any nation; and (2) any area of national resource jurisdiction of any foreign

¹ Includes Greenland.
² Includes French West Indies.
³ Includes Niue.
⁴ Includes Azores.

nation; if such area extends and such jurisdiction is recognized. "Hard mineral resources" means any mineral resource, whether on or just below the surface of the seabed or subsoil, of one or more minerals, at least cobalt, or copper.

Section 102(c)(2) of the act. No permittee may engage in the recovery of hard mineral resources from a deep seabed mining site of hard mineral resources re- permittee unless the permittee has been issued a permit by the United States.

Section 102(c)(3) of the act. Each permittee shall comply with the laws of the United States relating to the deep seabed mining site of hard mineral resources issued to the permittee.

The agencies primarily involved in the act are the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of the Interior, and the Coast Guard. The act requires the agencies to issue regulations to carry out the act. In the meantime, the act imposes certain restrictions on the recovery, processing at sea, and transportation of deep seabed hard mineral resources. Suspected violations of the act should be reported to the Carrier Rules and Regulations Division, U.S. Customs Service.

Dated: March 20, 1981.

Instrument

T.D. 75-212 amended to designate steel cores and fabric separate or ply

T.D. 75-212, among other things, amended the Act of 1930, as amended,

nation, if such area extends beyond the continental shelf of any nation and such jurisdiction is recognized by the United States.

"Hard mineral resource" is defined as any deposit or accretion on, or just below, the surface of the deep seabed of nodules which include one or more minerals, at least one of which contains manganese, nickel, cobalt, or copper.

Section 102(c)(2) of the act provides that:

No permittee may use any vessel for the commercial recovery of hard mineral resources or for the processing at sea of hard mineral resources recovered under the permit issued to the permittee unless the vessel is documented under the laws of the United States.

Section 102(c)(3) of the act provides that:

Each permittee shall use at least one vessel documented under the laws of the United States for the transportation from each mining site of hard mineral resources recovered under the permit issued to the permittee.

The agencies primarily responsible for the enforcement of the act are the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the department in which the Coast Guard is operating. These agencies are required by the act to issue proposed and final regulations implementing the act. In the meantime, however, Customs officers should be aware of the restrictions on the use of vessels not documented as vessels of the United States by U.S. citizens in the commercial recovery, processing at sea, and transportation of deep seabed hard mineral resources. Suspected violations of these restrictions should be reported to the Carrier Rulings Branch, Headquarters, U.S. Customs Service.

Dated: March 20, 1981.

MARILYN G. MORRISON,

Director,

Carriers, Drawback and Bonds Division.

(T.D. 81-60)

Instruments of International Traffic

T.D. 75-212 amended to designate as instruments of international traffic certain steel cores and fabric separators used together to hold rayon or nylon fabric or ply

T.D. 75-212, among other things, designated as "instruments of international traffic", within the meaning of section 322(a), Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, "steel cores designed to hold rayon or

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